



Docket No.: 062758-0043

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
Kunihiko MIYAZAKI, et al.	:	Confirmation Number: 8995
Application No.: 10/620,808	:	Group Art Unit: 2137
Filed: July 17, 2003	:	Allowed: July 31, 2008
	:	Examiner: M.D.T. Nguyen
For: METHOD FOR VERIFYING A DIGITAL SIGNATURE	:	

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF
REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 104(e)**

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

A Statement of Reasons for Allowance accompanied the July 31, 2008 Notice of Allowability regarding the above-identified application. Although Applicants agree that the claims are patentable over the art, entry of the Statement into the record should not necessarily be construed as any agreement with or acquiescence by Applicants in the reasoning set forth in the Statement, particularly to the extent that the wording used in the Statement differs from the actual claim language and/or the otherwise proper interpretation of the claim language.

The Statement initially characterizes the inventive subject matter as “a hysteresis signature verification method that reflects the reliability of the signature history adequately.” This characterization is not attributable to Applicants and does not reflect the actual claim language. For example, no claim expressly recites a “hysteresis signature verification method,” although the application does refer to a “hysteresis signature used for verification” (see e.g.

abstract of the disclosure). It is submitted that the language of the claims is clear and concise, and it is the claim language that defines the scope of patentable subject matter encompassed to varying degrees by the different scope of the respective claims.

The Statement also refers to a “uniquely distinct feature” and then essentially quotes from two paragraphs of independent claim 5. Since the claim language is already of record, repetition of selected claim language in the Statement adds nothing substantive to the record and should not create any narrowing interpretation or estoppel with regard to any of the allowed claims or any of the recitations contained in the allowed claims.

It is respectfully submitted that the allowed claims should be entitled to the broadest reasonable interpretation and to the broadest range of equivalents that are appropriate in light of the language of the claims, the supporting disclosure and Applicants’ prosecution of the claims, without reference to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

To the extent necessary, if any, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP



Keith E. George
Registration No. 34,111

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
Phone: 202.756.8000 KEG:MWE
Facsimile: 202.756.8087
Date: September 9, 2008

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as our correspondence address.**